

Appl. No. 09/880,883
Amdt. Dated June 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 1, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19 (Cancelled)

² ~~20.~~ (Previously Presented) The shear wall panel of claim ~~28~~¹ wherein the ends of the diagonal members of the first, second, third and fourth vertices are secured to one of the horizontal or vertical members at about the midpoint of the one of the horizontal or vertical members.

³ ~~21.~~ (Previously Presented) The shear wall panel of claim ~~28~~¹ wherein the vertically oriented connectors are wedge shaped blocks located above the first and third vertices.

22-27 (Cancelled)

¹ ~~28.~~ (Currently Amended) A shear wall panel for a building comprising,

(I) outer rectangle members comprising,

a) a pair of spaced apart vertical members having upper ends and lower ends;

b) an upper horizontal member extending between and secured to the upper ends of the vertical members; and,

c) a lower horizontal member extending between and secured to the lower ends of the vertical members

wherein the outer rectangle members form an outer rectangle;

(II) a multi-segmented assembly comprising a plurality of inner members secured together end to end, the multi-segmented assembly having vertices secured to the outer

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rectangle, the vertices including a vertex secured to each of the vertical members, the multi-segmented assembly being adapted to resist lateral forces applied to the shear wall panel; and,

(III) vertically oriented connectors connected to the vertical members and adapted to be secured to rods extending upwards from a foundation or laterally stabilized wall or floor of the building below the shear wall panel near the vertical members wherein the vertically oriented connectors are located adjacent to the vertices of the multi-segmented assembly which are secured to the vertical members,

wherein the multi-segmented assembly comprises inner polygon members further comprising at least four diagonal members secured together end to end to form an inner polygon having at least a first, a second, a third and a fourth vertex wherein (i) the inner polygon is located inside of the outer rectangle, (ii) the ends of the diagonal members of the first vertex are secured to one of the vertical members, (iii) the ends of the diagonal members of the second vertex are secured to the upper horizontal member, (iv) the ends of the diagonal members of the third vertex are secured to the other vertical member and the ends of the diagonal members of the fourth vertex are secured to the lower horizontal member, the inner polygon members. ~~The shear wall panel of claim 27~~ having a first diagonal member extending from the first vertex to the second vertex, a second diagonal member extending from the second vertex to the third vertex, a third diagonal member extending from the third vertex to the fourth vertex and a fourth diagonal member extending from the fourth vertex to the first vertex.